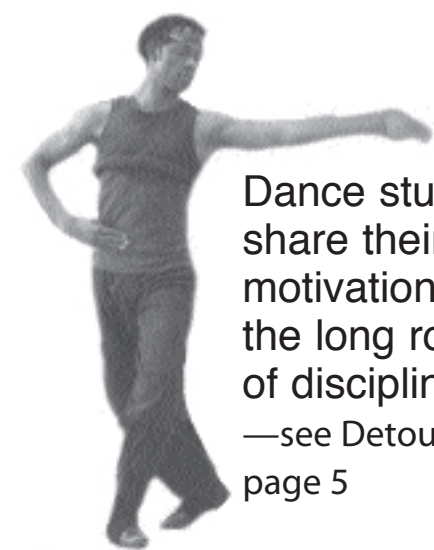


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The Daily
TITAN

Dance students share their motivations and the long road of discipline
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VOLUME 73, ISSUE 49

THURSDAY

DECEMBER 6, 2001

Let's Eat!



MICHELLE LARA/Daily Titan

Political Science Professor Chouduray Shamim treats eight of his best student "delegates" from his World Politics in the 21st Century class. The class allowed students to simulate the United Nations where they try to resolve a political conflict in the world.

Students sponsor toy

■CHARITY: Camp Titan aims to collect 500 toys by the end of the drive. The count is currently at 60

BY LISA SLEIGH
Daily Titan Staff Writer

Through thoughtful gestures of small gifts of toys, Cal State Fullerton students can touch the hearts of underprivileged children this holiday season.

For the third year in a row, the Associated Students (AS) is spon-

soring the Camp Titan Holiday Toy Drive.

The toy drive is an extension of Camp Titan, a program that gives about 150 children an outdoor experience in the San Bernardino Mountains.

The accredited camping program reaches abused and underprivileged children living in Orange County.

The week-long event centers on teaching the children to feel good about themselves.

The demographics of the children in the program run from single parent homes, poor immigrant families to children in foster-care situations.

As part of that same concept, AS started the toy drive as their official philanthropy that helps reinforce campers' positive experiences. The

toys are distributed to the children at an annual holiday party.

Chip West, Titan Student Union assistant director of programs and service, said that students who volunteer in the Camp Titan program saw a need that surfaced around the holidays in those that they served.

"The program started when they realized that the kids were missing out on the holiday experience," West said.

ASI/TSU Program Coordinator Anthony Ragazzo believes that for some children, the gift makes a difference in the level of happiness, lightening the otherwise difficult circumstances.

In addition, the party is a nice reunion for the counselor and the

kids," Ragazzo said. "It makes the season a little brighter, taking a little of the pressure off parents that are just trying to make it."

West notes that in comparison to last year, the numbers of toys they have received are low. He attributes the few toys received to the mass donations given after the attack on America.

"We don't have as many toys as we did last year," West said. "After Sept. 11, I think people are a little gived out."

Recalling last years, TSU Information Services Coordinator Pamela Skawain said about this same time the toy count was well on its way

TOYS/3

Chancellor
discussed
CSU budget

■CONCERNS: Charles Reed talked responded to queries about hiring freezes, enrollment and the effects of recession

BY MICHELLE LARA
Daily Titan Staff Writer

CSU reporters probed into the mind of Chancellor Charles Reed asking questions and discussing important issues like the CSU budget cut and the hiring freeze for non-essential positions at a teleconference on Wednesday.

With the state in an economic recession, Reed said that California has been hit especially hard.

"It is no secret that we are in a recession," Reed said. "In the past 18 to 24 months, in California, the cost of energy has given our economy an added burden."

In response to the problem, CSU Department of Finance has put out an executive order that will cut 2 percent or \$35 million out of the CSU budget.

The department is also looking at the possibilities of a three percent, five percent, 10 percent or 15 percent cut for next fall's budget.

"A 15 percent cut would be devastating to us," Reed said. "We are hoping that there will be no other budget cuts."

Budget cuts could create the possibility of increased student fees. Future trustees meetings will determine the direction student fees will

take, but Reed said that there are no definite decisions on whether or not an increase will occur.

"I feel that we need to put all of the different options on the table," Reed said. "We will do the very best to anticipate how many students we will have and the cost it will be."

Yet students are nervous about the idea of student fees becoming more expensive.

"I don't even want to imagine what I would do if fees increased," said Chad Jensen, a biology major. "I'm hoping that because I'm a junior the increase will come after I graduate."

Another problem that will occur at CSU universities is a hiring freeze that will affect all non-essential positions.

As of right now, tenure and part time professors are considered essential positions because of the need for classes as a result of the increase in student enrollment.

But Reed does not know how long those jobs will stay clear of the freeze.

"It's not a pretty picture and there are going to be tough times," Reed said. "We will do everything we can to protect tenure positions from the hiring freeze, but come next year, we don't know."

Security, police officers and positions like president and vice president at universities will continue to be filled, but other jobs will be put on a freeze until the budget is examined.

"What is scary is that if they stop hiring people for jobs like cashier at the café or custodial work, those people that work there now will have to work that much more," said Kelly Hughes, a senior and English major. "I don't think that is fair to them."

"It's not a pretty picture and there are going to be tough times. We will do everything we can to protect tenure positions from the hiring freeze."

Charles Reed,
CSU Chancellor

Aquarium relieves
exhaustion, stress

■ACTIVITY: After a long semester and finals, students can relax during a field trip to Long Beach

BY DIONE BLEDSOE
Daily Titan Staff Writer

Eight days and counting down. Almost every Cal State Fullerton student has Dec. 14 circled on his or her calendar to mark the end of finals week, and the end to a long and trying semester.

Nearing the end of the semester, students typically tie up a lot of loose ends. However, one question still remains. What is everyone going to do to relax and unwind over a six-week winter break?

Besides stuffing oneself with large quantities of turkey and spending hard-earned money at crowded malls, students may want to experience something a little different from the usual recess agenda.

The Long Beach Aquarium of the Pacific offers a new solution to relaxation and beating the boredom blues.

"It beats playing couch commando with the remote control all break long and getting fat," said Jessica Lynn Hargrave, a sophomore sociology major.

While it may sound familiar to an elementary school day fieldtrip, the aquarium offers rewarding displays. It combines three elements to help soothe a stressed individual.

"The sight, sounds, and mere presence of water has an extremely calming effect on people," said Diane Foust, a psychologist at St. Joseph's Medical Center in Washington. "That's probably why most people like the beach."

Because the aquarium is filled with water, it would be natural to assume that students should have no trouble relaxing those neck muscles from late night study sessions.

Secondly, the aquarium is filled with countless facts. Information

AQUARIUM/3

Health Center restocks vac-

■CAMPUS: Students whose registration has been put on hold, can now get immunized on campus and enroll

BY ADRIANA ESCOBEDO
Daily Titan Staff Writer

Cal States Fullerton's Health Center replenished its MMR (measles, mumps and rubella) immunization vaccine, Friday, Nov. 30.

For just over a month, the Health Center had been completely out of the vaccine.

This was a problem for students who had holds on their registration because they needed to receive the vaccine from the Health Center.

It received a shipment of 600 MMR vaccines, which is now available to students.

The Chancellor's Office requires that every new student in the university provide documentation that proves that he or she has been immunized against mumps, measles and rubella.

Students will not be allowed to enroll in their second semester of school unless he or she has provided the Health Center with documentation of proof of immunization.

Students who had holds on their registration, due to need of the MMR, were temporarily taken off hold so that they could register until the Health Center received the vaccine.

Once the Health Center received the vaccine, students' registration will once again be put on hold until they receive or show proof of the vaccine.

The MMR is given to students free of charge.

Staff members of the Health Center are encouraging students who have holds on their registration to come in and receive the vaccine.

"I urge students to come in as soon as possible to get injections now that we have the vaccines available," said Pat Brown, a nursing supervisor at the Health Center.

The Health Center receives its MMR vaccine supplies from the Orange County Health Care Agency.

The Health Center had recently ran out of the MMR because the Orange County Health Agency had a problem with its ordering of the vaccine and simply didn't have enough to give to CSUF, said Tom Sciortino, a pharmacist in the center and in charge of ordering the MMR vaccine.

According to the Health Care Agency, part of the problem was that it has 48 sites to distribute the MMR vaccine and it did not know in advance that CSUF was going to need a large order of the vaccine. Otherwise, it would



ADRIANA ESCOBEDO/Daily Titan

Cal State Fullerton's Health Center received 600 MMR (mumps, measles and rubella) vaccines after suffering a shortage for a month.

have been able to accommodate the campus.

Not only was there a limited supply of the vaccine, but the agency and the Health Center had courier problems.

Certain rules and regulations prevented the Health Center from receiving the vaccine for a short period of time. The Medical Records Office received an estimated to 200-250 calls a day in regards to information about the MMR, said the medical records supervisor.

Many students are relieved that the Health Center has received its shipment of the MMR.

"I think it's important that the Health Center has the shot available for students, especially for students that don't have health insurance and have registration holds," said freshman Jeannette Garcia, a biology major. "I have a hold on my registration until I receive my shots. So that's why I am here. I think having a Health Center on campus makes it convenient for the students to come in whenever they want to receive the shot for free."

Students may request a waiver to the

VACCINE/2

two

A GUIDE TO WHAT'S HAPPENING

BRIEFS

Opera Pacific announces production of “Dead Man Walking”

Opera Pacific announces the creation of a new production of “Dead Man Walking,” Jake Heggie’s debut opera.

It is based on the novel by Sister Helen Prejean, and with libretto by Tony-Awarding- winning playwright Terrence McNally.

The play is based on the true story of the moving and emotional relationship between Sister Helen and condemned murderer Joseph DeRocher. This new production has been conceived and will be directed by Leonard Foglia who garnered international acclaim for his Broadway direction of McNally’s “Master Class.”

Foglia is collaborating with set designer Michael McGarty and costume designer Jess Goldstein.

Co-production of “Dead Man Walking” includes the Cincinnati Opera, the New York Opera, Austin Lyric Opera, the Michigan Opera Theatre, the Pittsburgh Opera and the Baltimore Opera.

The production will premiere at Opera Pacific. Performances will be held at the Orange County Performing Arts Center in Costa Mesa, April 16 through 20 at 7:30 p.m., and April 21 at 2 p.m.

Tickets for “Dead Man Walking” range from \$25 to \$175 and are available by calling the Opera Pacific Box Office at (800) 34-OPERA.

The production premiered at the San Francisco Opera last season. Several of the original cast members will recreate their roles for Opera Pacific’s production, including Kristin Jepson, who will be alternating in the role of Sister Helen with Theodora Hanslowe, John Packard as Joseph DeRocher and Federica von Stade as Mrs. DeRocher.

John DeMain will conduct. He is also scheduled to conduct New York’s Opera performances in September of 2002.

For more information, call (714) 546-6000.

The Grove in Anaheim is celebrating its grand opening

Strolling through a palm grove with tall trees will become a new experience for people who visit the Grove in Anaheim.

Formerly the Sun Theatre, the Grove of Anaheim will be celebrating its grand opening under the new name Wednesday, Dec. 12.

Local dignitaries featuring civic and business leaders will gather for the ribbon-cutting ceremony at 8:30 a.m. This will commemorate the name change and re-affirm the facility’s ties to Anaheim and Southern California.

The Fab Four will perform, as they sing their rendition of Beatles favorites such as “Twist and Shout,” “Help” and “Strawberry Fields Forever.”

Those in the audience will also be treated to a breakfast in addition to autographs and photos with the music group.

The Grove’s seating capability will enable configurations ranging from 500 to 20,000.

General Manager Stephen Lazar said it is his intention to make audiences feel like they are at home instead of a large stadium or convention center. He is calling it the soon-to-be premiere, all-around entertainment center in Southern California.

The theater will feature state-of-the-art, audio-visual equipment. It have ceilings more than 40 feet high.

For more information, contact The Grove of Anaheim at (714) 712-7250.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Community-

The All American Boys Choir will be performing Dec. 15 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. at Brea’s Curtis Theatre. Tickets are \$27 for adults and \$17 for children. For more information, call (714) 990-7722.

The Muckenthaler Cultural Center’s “Artist Village” exhibit will be held Jan. 6, from noon to 4 p.m. Artists are welcome to display, sell or demonstrate their work on the center’s lawns. Admission is free for students. For more information, call (714) 738-6595.

On Dec. 9, there will be a “Festival of Trees” auction presented by the Ebell Club of Fullerton. The family event will be from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., and parking is free. For more information, call (714) 992-4954.-

“Lighting of the Bay,” the eighth annual lighting of electric trees will be taking place Dec. 7 at 6 p.m. The event will be located at the Newport Dunes Waterfront Resort. There will be carolers, hot chocolate and seafood chowder on hand. For more information, call (800) 765-7661 or visit www.newportdunes.com. -

Curtis Theatre’s Guest Artist

Series is presenting “Golden Bough” Dec. 7 and 8 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$27 for adults. The show will feature Celtic music and dance. For more information, call (714) 990-7722.--

“Renaissance,” a 21-and-over club, takes place every Thursday night at Geckos in Huntington Beach. The club features three full bars with DJ Soltani and DJ Re. The club also has two music rooms and will have \$1 well drinks. -

The City of Fullerton will host a “Winterfest” Dec. 8. There will be crafts, horse-drawn carriage rides and snow in the Downtown Plaza from noon until 6 p.m. There will also be a Christmas tree and Menorah lighting ceremony at 5 p.m. For more information, call (714) 738-6317.-

Laguna Beach’s Winter Festival continues to line the grounds of the Sawdust Festival with entertainment and food through December. The celebration will feature 150 artists who have made holiday items.-

The City of Brea and the National Watercolor Society are presenting the 81st annual “National Watercolor Juried Exhibition” through Dec. 9. The exhibit will feature more than

100 watercolor paintings from artists around the world. For more information, call (714) 990-7730.-

Campus

“Victorian Christmas Open House at Heritage House” will be held on Dec. 8 and 9. The house will be decorated for the holidays. Tickets are \$2 for adults and \$1 for children. For more information, call (714) 278-3579.

A campus-wide “Holiday Open House”-will be held Dec. 7 at 1 p.m. in the Titan Student Union’s Portola Pavilion. The holiday event will be for faculty and staff members. Sponsored by the president and vice president of the university.

“Women from Mars: Paintings by Manuel Pardo” will be on display at Cal State Fullerton’s Main Art Gallery through Dec. 13. The New York artist’s works can be viewed Monday through Thursday, noon to 4 p.m. and Saturday, noon to 2 p.m.-

The Fantasticks will be performing a tale of innocence and first love through Dec. 9 at the Arena Theatre. The music is by Harvey Schmidt and words are by Tom Jones. Tickets are \$16 or \$13

with advanced Titan discount.- French tutoring is available every Tuesday and Wednesday in the Foreign Language Lab, Humanities Room 325. M. Louis Abel Dumas, a graduate assistant from the university of Paris X- Nanterre will be available for further discussion on French culture and grammar. -

“All Night Study” will take place in the Titan Student Union Dec. 1 through Dec. 14, from 10 p.m. to 7 a.m. Individual meeting rooms will also be available.--

A Lecture on “Nurturing Your Soul and Improving Quality of Life” will be held Dec. 5 from noon to 1 p.m. The Student Diversity Program is sponsoring the discussion that will be presented by Dr. Matthew Harris in University Hall Room 138. For more information, call (714) 278-4575.-

“Glassworks 2001” will be at the Grand Central Art Center’s Rental and Sales Gallery through Jan. 13. This event is the third annual exhibition. -

Camp Titan is having a Holiday Toy Drive through Dec. 14. Bring an unwrapped toy to the Titan Student Union Information and Services desk to help support underprivileged

VACCINE

■from page 1

vaccine for medical reasons, religious or philosophical reasons and if students have an allergy to feathers, egg, neomycin or gelatin.

Students must fill out a wavier form and return it to the Health Center for approval.

The Chancellor’s Office also requires that every new student 18 and younger be vaccinated against hepatitis B. There is an estimated

1,200 - 1,500 freshmen in need of the Hepatitis vaccine.

The hepatitis B shot is free of charge for students who are required to get it. The hepatitis B shot is a series of three, which takes around six months to complete.

Students who aren’t required to have the vaccine and wish to receive it will have to pay \$86 for the series of three shots.

The flu shot is also available for \$10.

The Health Center has only 200 flu shots available for CSUF students and



http://dailytitan.fullerton.edu

Dr. Anderson 2 x 3

Fullerton Arboretum 2 x 3

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The Daily TITAN

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Parking official keeps sharp eye on violators

■**CITATIONS:** CSUF student, Michael Pruitt, enjoys his job despite the occasional anger violators express

By Andrew Burns
Special to the Titan

If someone has knowingly parked his or her car illegally on campus, then Michael Pruitt may be their worst nightmare.

Pruitt has written more than 1,600 parking tickets this semester. On average, the entire Parking and Transportation Department writes about 2,000 to 3,000 tickets a month.

Michael Pruitt, 30, who has worked at Cal State Fullerton more than two and a half years as a parking officer, is also a full-time student at CSUF majoring in accounting.

Pruitt is one of four full-time parking officers. Numerous student assistants, often seen in gray shirts, also work for the Parking and Transportation Department at CSUF.

There is no set schedule or pattern that the parking officers use

when scouring the lots for parking violators.

Most of the citations are given to night students and visitors.

“I don’t know for sure,” Pruitt said. “But I assume we have more citations at night because a lot of people have a once-a-week class at night and they don’t bother getting the semester [parking] pass. And we also have a lot of visitors to the dorms at night.”

Pruitt understands that his job makes people mad, but he has no qualms about it.

“We don’t get state money to pay for and maintain the parking facilities, so we have to be self-sufficient,” he said. “And the way we pay for the parking lots is through parking fees and parking tickets. So if I didn’t do what I do, there’d be no parking lot.”

Pruitt has little sympathy for parking violators.

“Even before I was a parking officer, I never liked it when people intentionally tried to go around the system. I paid my money for the semester [parking] pass so....” Pruitt said, shrug-

ging his shoulders as if to say, fair is fair.

He is steadfast in his job, but will occasionally let someone off under certain circumstances.

One time, he let someone off because they came running up to him as he was writing the ticket.

On other occasions, which happen often, Pruitt will let people out of a ticket is if they’re unfamiliar with the campus if they’re just visiting or trying to pick up their son or daughter.

Students can contest tickets, but it should be known that what the officer writes on the ticket is taken as truth, and an independent [from the university] arbitrator decides on a case by case basis which are excused, or let off.

Pruitt said that he has been cussed out and flipped off for writing a ticket though never physically threatened, but still enjoys his job.

“The best part of my job is interacting with people and helping people, like when someone locks their keys in the car or needs a jump start,” Pruitt said. “I enjoy coming to work and



DIONE BLEDSOE/Daily Titan

The Long Beach Aquarium of the Pacific appeal to both adults and children.

AQUARIUM

■from page 1

is clearly printed in large font on the wall and in an easy to read language; no scientific jargon like a textbook.

“Did you know sharks have no bones?” said Joey Marsch, a third grader on tour at the museum.

Eight-year-old Marsch tries to impress his teacher Patricia Bellamy with his new-found knowledge.

“We get the kids out here every year,” Bellamy said. “They have a good time looking at all the fish and

it’s easy for them to pick up bits of information at the same time.”

Besides playing trivia with third graders, the most important part of a trip to the aquarium is fun. Even 20-something-aged students can find a smile in the seal lions and the sting rays. Going with a group of friends, bringing a lunch or taking pictures of what seems interesting can add to the experience.

For those interested in dining, they can eat their lunch on steps located near the entrance of the aquarium while also looking at the large fountain.

“I go there at least two times a month,” said Kelli Flaagan, a CSUF biology instructor.

The Long Beach Aquarium of the Pacific is located just off the 710 Freeway. It is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. Admission is \$16.95 and parking is \$4 per car.

“I notice something new every time I go. I feel like I did something positive for the day after I leave,” Flaagan said.

TOYS

■from page 1

to the grand total of 450.

Having attained such an outcome last year, West had increased his goal but realizes that they may fall short of their expectations.

“Our goal this year is 500, as of now we have a count of 60,” West said.

West states that all toys over and above the Camp Titan enrollment will be given to the local Toys for Tots sponsored by the United States Marine Corp.

The drive runs through Dec. 14, so there is still time to take part in

the outreach event.

“Students can pick up a snowflake name tag at the front desk and bring in an unwrapped toy appropriate for children between the ages of 7 and 14,” Skawain said.

TSU Front Desk Employee and English major Laura Burns is thrilled to tell students passing by about the program.

“I m excited about it [toy drive], especially because it is for children in our area,” Burns said. “We get to share the holiday spirit.”

a

“I think it great to be part of something to make little kids holiday a little nicer,” Burns said.

Holiday wish-lists debut on the

■**GIFTS:** Stores attempt to attract consumers in the yuletide season by encouraging them to sign up for the store

By Allison Kaplan
Knight Ridder Newspapers

No more itchy wool sweaters, books you’ve already read or ties from the boutique that doesn’t take returns. But no more touching surprises that show how well the gift-giver knows you, either.

The line between practical and impersonal gifting is blurring in the computer age.

This holiday season, Target, Marshall Field’s and a host of other retailers have introduced holiday gift registries, usually called wish lists, on their Web sites.

The tradition, long reserved for brides and grooms, is apparently now appropriate for baby showers, birth-

days and the biggest bonanza of them all — Christmas.

While the holiday gift registry is primarily an online phenomenon right now — with an estimated 50 percent of online merchants offering a wish list service — Marshall Field’s is also testing the concept for its stores, so that eventually you could print out a Christmas registry at an in-store kiosk, the way customers are in the habit of doing for weddings.

JC Penney already includes holiday registries on its in-store kiosks and encourages shoppers to sign up at the store or online.

It’s convenient and efficient, retailers say.

Thirty percent of Marshall Field’s online sales comes from gift registries — overwhelmingly, wedding registries. But Cathy David, vice president and general manager of fields.com, the Marshall Field’s Web site, thinks that figure indicates a growing comfort level with registries in general.

“Clearly, people are going there (to the Web site) to see what other people want,” David said.

Amazon.com was one of the first

to launch its wish list service just two years ago, and more than 5 million people have signed up, product manager Sharon Greenspan said.

The e-tailer says shoppers use their wish lists year round, with a major spike in December.

But Amazon won’t say how many sales come from registries.

One survey pins the purchase rate from online registries as low as 8 percent, according to Shop.org, an association for online merchants.

Amazon’s Greenspan admits that coaxing people to actually send their lists to relatives and friends is much tougher than getting them to register.

“People are definitely shy about sending it out,” Greenspan said. “Some probably think it’s a little bit bold.”

“Registries are becoming more and more accepted, but it’s going to take some time,” said Elaine Rubin, chairperson of Shop.org said.

At least for now, more consumers seem to be using the wish list as a personal tool rather than public one.

It’s a way to bookmark the sweater you want but can’t afford, or to remember the title of a book.

In fact, some wish lists, like the one at Macys.com, can only be used as a personal list, as opposed to a published registry for anyone to see.

The reason strictly private wish lists is to cut down on the 75 to 80 percent of online orders that are canceled before the transaction is completed, Rubin said.

Online shoppers frequently click to purchase items they have no intention of actually buying, Rubin explained, because they want to remember the product, or find out what the total price would be with shipping and tax.

“Wish lists allow you to earmark purchases, and a lot of retailers are just happy to have consumers pledge their loyalty and show an interest in using functionality,” Rubin said.

But it won’t end there.

Tacky or not, the strategy of the moment is convenience.

In an age when gift certificates are one of the most popular holiday presents, it’s not a stretch to imagine holiday gift registries catching on.

Golden West College
2 x 6

Silicon Ave
2 x 4

Xyborg
2 x 4

CSULB
3 x 5

TIR
3 x 5

Journalist teaches from experience

■**PROFILE:** Professor Mike Tharp inspires students by showing them the craft and integrity of journalism

By Patricia Rodrigues
Daily Titan Staff Writer

Even though Mike Tharp worked as a copy boy for his town's local newspaper when he was a teen-ager, his journalism career really began when he returned from the Vietnam War. His life was different from when he left. His old job didn't hold enough interest and his girlfriend broke up with him. Not knowing what else to do, Tharp signed up for a master's degree in journalism at the University of Kansas in 1971.

"Although I learned a lot in some of the journalism classes, the main point of going there was that I got a job out of it after a year," Tharp said.

His job was with "The Wall Street Journal" in Dallas, Texas. After four years of working as a staff reporter, the newspaper sent him to Japan as the Tokyo Bureau Chief in 1976.

"I love Japan," Tharp said. "I love the Japanese. If there were any place in the

world besides America that I'd live, it would be Japan. The whole time I was there was when Japan emerged on the world stage as a global power. It was great to try to track everything that was going on in Japan that was so important to America and the rest of the world."

His experience includes working for the "New York Times" and "U.S. News and World Report." He has also traveled extensively. He spent a year studying in Wales and visiting the rest of Europe.

"That changed my whole way of looking at the world and myself at age 22," Tharp said.

He was born in Oklahoma in 1945. Five years later, he moved with his parents and five siblings to Kansas where his father worked as a railroad police officer with the Santa Fe Railway. After high school, he earned his bachelor's degree in English literature from Benedictine College in Kansas. Tharp then went to Europe and upon his return, entered the University of Notre Dame Law School and completed one semester before his induction into the military.



COURTESY OF MIKE THARP

Tharp went to Saudi Arabia during the Gulf War as a combat pool report-

"When I was hitchhiking around Europe in 1968, I met a Swedish girl who became my pen pal/girlfriend for the next three years. I had her letters and her pictures, and when I was in Vietnam it was a real escape," Tharp said.

"We were reunited in 1971 in Munich for a very romantic period. Every young man should have Swedish girlfriend."

After the war and completing his master's degree, his work as a reporter kept him traveling throughout the world.

"I love to travel because of the different kinds of people you meet," Tharp said. "The different experiences you can have with those people is always educational and fun."

One of his favorite stories was following a Japanese politician around his home district for a week, writing about how politics was done at the grass-roots level in

Japan. This involved eating a still-live sea urchin because the politician also ate one.

He was one of the first American correspondents to visit North Korea in 1979. He was also a pool reporter in the Persian Gulf War. He covered Operation Restore Hope in Somalia, the war in Bosnia, in Sarajevo and the Kosovo War in Albania in 1999.

"Mike has a lot of experience," said Carrie Dolan, a friend of Tharp's who works for "The Wall Street Journal" in San Francisco.

"He goes out and reports the story as opposed to reporting from his desk and interviewing from his phone," Dolan added. Tharp wanted to teach, so he sent in his resume to Cal State Fullerton. After two months of not receiving a response, he thought nothing would come of it. Then, in August 2000, he received a class schedule and an orientation book.

"I want to teach here or somewhere for the rest of my life," he said. "It's just something I think I should be doing. Not necessarily for myself but I think student



COURTESY OF MIKE THARP

Mike Tharp (far right) plays basketball with Mike Hedges (center) in Sarajevo, Bosnia during its civil war.

reporters get something out of it and that's the main reason."

He tries to bring into the classroom all his experience, outlook and passion.

"He's done the fieldwork and he loves it," Dolan said. "That makes it easier for other people. He has a lot of enthusiasm and that will come across to the students," she added.

Dolan describes Tharp as having high ethical standards saying he is not into the glitz, but into getting the real story.

"I like having an experienced reporter who knows his craft and has used it in so many ways. It makes the profession more appealing to students," said Kristen Hartman, a communications major and one of Tharp's students.

Students leave his class feeling a positive energy, enthusiasm and a feeling that they gained more than just academic knowledge.

"I learned to follow my instincts on stories. What interests me also interests

other people so I pursue my interests," Hartman added.

Teaching is a reward Tharp hopes to continue doing.

"The greatest feeling from teaching out here is to see the student reporters get better. That is just a wonderful sense of satisfaction."

Yet, with so many experiences behind him, Tharp describes himself as a man who is "honest, passionate and unfulfilled."

Honest? Definitely. Just ask his students. He tells it as it is. No fluff.

Show up. Be on time. Do the work. Tell the truth. These are Tharp's opening words to the students in his public affairs reporting class, which also embody his philosophy of journalism.

"I was totally impressed with his honesty and complete up-frontness about what he expected of us and who he was," said Hartman.

Passionate? Definitely. He loves his

work. It shows in the way his eyes light up and he smiles when he talks about journalism.

"I don't think it is a profession and never have," Tharp said. "I think it's a craft. There are no real standards or tests that you have to pass as you would to be a doctor or a lawyer, so it's not a profession; it's a craft. I think when a craft is practiced at its best, it's not only one of the four pillars of a democratic society, with the judicial, the executive, and the congressional branches – the press is the fourth leg of that table – but it's also a hell of a fun way to make a living."

Unfulfilled? Definitely, at least according to him.

"I have failed to write a book up to now," he said. "I won't feel fulfilled until I do that. I stopped writing poetry a dozen years ago and I should never have done that. I have to get back into doing that if I can."

Classifieds
6 x 12

Taking

A

B

Story by
Christina Marin
Photos by
Dione Bledsoe

W

Students of the CSUF dance department describe their ascension to center stage, and what it feels like to graduate

*Stomp. Hop. Step.
Falap, step, chasse. Pas de bour-
ree. Pirouette.
And big finish!*

These words describe a small portion of a dancer's vocabulary. It is used to make up the graceful movements leading to the big finish at the end of a performance, leaving the audience in awe and wanting more.

Cal State Fullerton dance students, Enrique De La Paz, 23, and John Ajayi, 24, plan to make their big finish soon.

All dancers have experienced that one moment when they can say, "That's what I want to do with my life. I want to dance." They are willing to dedicate their lives to it.

De La Paz smiled and said he first "caught the bug" [to dance] in fifth grade when he saw the Paula Abdul music video for "Cold-Hearted Snake."

De La Paz originally came to CSUF as a musical theatre major.

He was required to take dance classes, which inspired him to switch to dance, he said.

"I grew to love dance more than the other aspects of musical theatre—singing and acting," said De La Paz, "I had dance class with Macarena (CSUF faculty) and I credit her for having put the bug in me."

Macarena said De La Paz was already a natural born performer before coming to CSUF.

"Give him a piece that requires drama, comedy, anything and he'll take off with it," said Macarena.

Ajayi said he didn't begin formal training until he was 19 but has been dancing since he was a kid.

"My siblings and I used to screw around with records and music videos. It was entertainment for my family," he said.

"I wanted to be the next Michael Jackson," Ajayi said.

Ajayi is a musical theatre major and is active within the dance department.

"I'm really happy that I found something I can sink my teeth into," he said, enthusiastically.

"John is the perfect picture of determination," said Barbara Arms, CSUF dance department chair.

"In one year, his progress is so outstanding and it's just because he wants it so much. He has worked hard constantly and it has paid off. His dancing compared from a year ago to now is like night and day," she said.

Dance, especially ballet, is an art form that requires years of training and a certain body type to achieve the level of perfection associated with it.

De La Paz and Ajayi are the exceptions. Both began their training later than most dancers.

Macarena said De La Paz and Ajayi are fun to teach because they are devoted to their work.

"They take corrections not as negative but positive criticism. That's how they have advanced as much as they have. I'm very proud of them," she said.

"I'm a late-bloomer. I'm only in my third year," said De La Paz.

At 5-foot-4, De La Paz is shorter than most male dancers, which can put him at a disadvantage.



DIONE BLEDSOE/Daily Titan

Student John Ajayi demonstrates a series of dance combinations.

Arms said, "This happens to a lot of dancers that start late. They come in with a lot limitations, he [De La Paz] has a long hard road ahead of him because he hasn't been given the physical attributes of a dancer."

Ajayi stands 6-foot in his ballet slippers.

Ajayi's build is different; He has attributes that are common among male ballet dancers.

He has sleek, well-defined muscles and moves smoothly as he dances across the floor.

"John has an amazing body. He is very flexible for a male. He has a natural and beautiful sense of line in his body," said Macarena.

Arms agreed Ajayi has the physical attributes of a dancer. She said there is room for improvement in his technique and he knows his own limitations.

"He is willing to listen to people who know about dance and accept their guidance. He has made progress slowly and steadily," said Arms.

Not only do they look physically different, but their styles of moving are different, too.

De La Paz is interesting to watch dance because he is very open and emotional with his movements. He is very intense and charismatic.

Arms said, "His gift is his non-stop inner vision he has of how he wants to express himself. He's not timid or shy. He's willing to risk it."

Fellow dancer, Christine Marshall, said De La Paz is inspiring to watch.

"He has a quirky, funky, dramatic style when he dances and choreographs.

He dances with strength and power. His feet are flexed, hands in fists, arms straight out, hitting every move," Marshall said.

"Hip-hop and jazz come naturally to me. They have more energy," De La Paz said.

"Ballet is the hardest for me. There are so many rules. You have to constantly strive for perfection."

Extensions are a struggle he said. For example, when choreographers cast dancers, they may want the leg at a certain height, but most times, they prefer it at least placed properly, he said.

"I'm not shabby, it's just working at it. My leg is higher now," he said.

Macarena said De La Paz would get more extension by focusing more on the technical aspect of dance that involves stretching.

Ajayi prefers tap and hip-hop to ballet.

"Apart from a good work-out, I get a nice sense of catharsis. I really love going to dance, even on crummy days because of this [feeling]," he said.

Arms said, "The best thing about John is that he is not afraid to be a male dancer. Half the time when I watch him dancing I start to smile because as an audience we love that sense of confidence John has about himself."

Ajayi says for him there is a sense of constantly challenging himself. "I might be working on getting three or four pirouettes one day," he said.

Marshall said Ajayi is an amazing dancer because he has progressed so quickly in only a couple years.

"He's almost at professional level," she said.

Auditions for the dance concerts are held every semester.

The dance studio, Visual Arts room 148, is packed and there is barely any space to move or see the

combination of steps the choreographer is giving.

More than half the room is filled with women; the rest are men. Often times, the male dancers have the advantage.

"My experience has been that it's a double-edged sword. There are a handful of male dancers and it gives you an edge in auditions. The disadvantage is that it is hard to choreograph with one male and a group of female dancers. It steals the audiences eye," De La Paz said.

Ajayi agrees, "It's good because you have options about what you want to do. It's bad because you become over-booked," he said.

"I rarely find 10 minutes to sit down and think. It's exciting at the same time because I'm not bored."

De La Paz danced in four pieces in the Fall Dance Concert and hopes to choreograph in next semester's concert.

De La Paz said, "There's nothing like being on stage. It's a high. I get more joy out of creating dances than dancing myself."

"Choreographer's enjoy working with him because he is willing to go that extra mile. He is completely committed to the movement. He has no ego. When he's out there on stage it's all about the dance," said Arms.

Ajayi also danced in four pieces and choreographed one for the Fall Dance Concert.

"I love to perform," Ajayi said. "It's always a joy to be able to get up and express your feelings physically."

Marshall was in his piece for the Fall Dance Concert. She said his style of dance is a mixing pot of lyrical, flowy, upright movements.

"As a choreographer, he is very creative and open to suggestions," she said.

Being a dancer is tough. It is hard physically and emotionally.

"I'd like people to understand it's not an easy thing to do. There's a lot of self-doubt," De La Paz said. "But you can't let it discourage you."

"There is sorrow and tears. You compare yourself to others and it's frustrating when you're not able to do something you've been working at," Ajayi said, "It reminds you that if you work hard, there are no limits to what you can do."

People tend to not take dance seriously said De La Paz. Sometimes he gets a weird reaction from people when they ask about his major.

"Dance [ballet] is not well-respected by our generation," said De La Paz, "There is never a day when I'm not sore; people don't understand. We're athletes, its tough on our bodies."

Ajayi said, "I haven't really gotten many negative reactions from people. There is a stereotype about male dancers but I remind myself of who I am and what I want to do. Most of the time, people are impressed."

It is easier when the family is supportive.

Ajayi said his family has encouraged him to follow his dream.

"My mom is supportive. She comes to see my shows," he said, "I'm the youngest of five."

"I have four older sisters. They believe I will make it."

His father, however, is not as supportive.

"My dad doesn't encourage it," he said.

"He tries to change my mind but I'm not easily swayed. I'd rather be happy doing what I love to do. I'm from a Latino background so that might have something to do with it," he said.

De La Paz began pursuing dance with the intentions wanting to choreograph for music videos.

He still wants to do that but also wants to own a dance company where dancers study his technique.

His technique is inspired by Janet Jackson, Jackson's choreographer-Tina Landen, Bob Fosse, and Fatima, who choreographed for Backstreet Boys, Janet Jackson, and other artists.

Ajayi said he is inspired by Mikhail Baryshnikov, his teachers at CSUF, Mike Esperanza a CSUF alumni, and his colleagues.

He said he wants to choreograph and open a studio for underprivileged children after he graduates.

De La Paz aims to graduate in May 2002. He plans to move to New York in the fall and audition for a company. He wants to dance for a few years and bring that training back to LA.

"New York is the place to be if you want to be a professional dancer. It has always been a dream of mine to live in New York. I'm not scared to do it," he said.

Ajayi, is busy rehearsing and performing in two productions of the "Nutcracker."

He will be performing with the Anaheim Ballet Company in the snow and Russian sequences, one of the mice, and in the "Waltz of the Flowers."

He will also be performing in Ballet Temecula's production, "Nutcracker."

He will be the Nutcracker during the first act and in the snow and Russian sequences.

His winter break will be busy this year.

"You become more in demand as a male in ballet. Everyone wants to use you for something," he said.

The demands on them are great, but they have no regrets in doing something they love.

Ajayi said, "Dance is necessary for me in a sense. I feel like I have to do it. I get so much pleasure from it that it would be a big loss for me if I had to give it up."

"It [dance] is a real career and deserves more respect," De La Paz said. "I love what I'm doing. If it was easy I wouldn't want it as much."

My dad doesn't encourage it. He tries to change my mind but I'm not easily swayed.

MARS SAYS...

By DANNY SERPA
Daily Titan Staff Writer

I know one game we planets will disagree on this week and that's San Francisco 49ers versus the St. Louis Rams. Venus is taking the 49ers and I'm going with the Rams.

Both teams are tied for first in the NFC West with 9-2 records. This game is huge, as it could mean all the difference in the caliber of teams they will play in the first round of the playoffs.

A game also up for grabs is the Jets versus the Steelers at home. Remarkably, the Jets are 5-0 on the road this season while the Steelers are 4-1 at home.

The Jets need this win because there is a chance the once-intimidating Colts may beat Miami. In fact, I think the Colts will catch the Dolphins sleeping.

If this happens the Jets and the Dolphins will be tied for first in the AFC East.

Is it below zero in Green Bay yet?

The Bears, who are also familiar with cold weather, take their paws to Lambeau Field where they will play the Packers in a snowball fight.

I'm taking the Packers, how about you Venus?

LAST WEEK: 11-4
YEAR TO DATE: 118-55

PICKS FROM MARS

1. Bills
2. Packers
3. Patriots
4. Buccaneers
5. Jaguars
6. Saints
7. Giants
8. Eagles
9. Rams
10. Titans
11. Cardinals
12. Raiders
13. Steelers
14. Seahawks
15. Colts

NFL
Week 13

- Carolina at Buffalo
Chicago at Green Bay
Cleveland at New England
Detroit at Tampa Bay
Jacksonville at Cincinnati
New Orleans at Atlanta
NY Giants at Dallas
San Diego at Philadelphia
San Francisco at St. Louis
Tennessee at Minnesota
Washington at Arizona
Kansas City at Oakland
NY Jets at Pittsburgh
Seattle at Denver

MONDAY NITE FOOTBALL
Indianapolis at Miami

Venus says...

By MELANIE BYSOUTH
Daily Titan Sports Editor

This is the one that counts. And it could very well be a preview of the NFC championship game.

A game against the Rams was once an easy win for the San Francisco boys, but this time it will take all they have to walk away with the victory.

Though both teams are 9-2, the Rams No. 3 defense will hold strong against the Niners No. 2 offense. And with the best offense in the league, St. Louis should have no problems getting past the No. 20 San Francisco defense. It's going to come down to turnovers and that's where the Niners have the advantage.

They are ranked fourth in the league with only four lost fumbles, compared to the Rams' 13 fumbles which rank them No. 31. San Francisco has also thrown less interceptions and allowed less sacks.

And though they are both 9-2, the Niners are on the longest win streak in the league, claiming victory in their last five games.

But come Sunday, the numbers, the records and the stats will suddenly not matter because on the football field, anything can happen— even miracles, and the Niners just might need one.

LAST WEEK: 11-4
YEAR TO DATE: 111-62

PICKS FROM VENUS

1. Panthers
2. Bears
3. Browns
4. Buccaneers
5. Jaguars
6. Saints
7. Giants
8. Eagles
9. 49ers
10. Titans
11. Cardinals
12. Raiders
13. Steelers
14. Seahawks
15. Dolphins

New league
offers new oppor-

■BASKETBALL: Undrafted and unsigned players are given a chance to play their sport

By MARK VILLARROEL
Daily Titan Staff Writer

Since their first game tipped-off Nov. 16, the National Basketball Development League (NBDL) has functioned as the NBA's new minor league.

Designed to help foster the growth of the sport of basketball domestically and internationally, the NBDL offers players the opportunity to develop their talent in a highly competitive atmosphere under the NBA's umbrella.

In addition to being a source of on-court talent for the NBA's 29 teams, the NBDL will also serve as a diverse human resources pool for the NBA and its teams by training employees in management, operations, public relations, sales and marketing positions in each NBDL city.

The eight teams are: Asheville (N.C.) Altitude, Columbus (Ga.) Riverdragons, Fayetteville (Ark.) Patriots, Greenville (S.C.) Groove, Huntsville (Ala.) Flight, Mobile (Ala.) Revelers, North Charleston (S.C.) Lowgators and Roanoke (Va.) Dazzle.

"History was made today in our eight NBDL cities as our teams unveiled identities that connect them to their local communities, represent the excitement of basketball and tie them back to our universal brand," said Rob Levine, the NBA's senior vice president for new league development, in a news release.

The best fallback for the NBA's undrafted and unsigned are unstable markets of other minor leagues such as CBA, USBL, and ABA 2000. But the NBA's formal attachment to the new minor league might make the safety net a bit more attractive.

Operating much like the other basketball minor leagues, it provides overlooked basketball players a chance to get their foot in the NBA door rather than flying overseas to land a position on a team.

With a 56-game regular season schedule, complete with playoffs, the NBDL requires players to be at least 20 years old to play in the league. Though the eight teams will not have a direct affiliation

with specific NBA teams, the development league players will be eligible to play for any NBA team.

The transition from the lesser to the professional has already become reality, with the first NBDL player moving up to the "big leagues."

Chris Andersen, a 6-foot-10, power forward for the Patriots, has signed a contract with the Denver Nuggets. This makes him the first player "called up" to the NBA from the developmental league.

According to NBA.com, Andersen who was the NBDL's No. 1 overall selection in the league's Inaugural Draft, played in two regular season games with the Patriots averaging 6.0 points per game, 5.0 rebounds and 2.50 blocks at 20.0 minutes per game.

In his first game with the Patriots, Andersen scored 11 points on 3-4 FGA and 5-6 FTA to go along with eight rebounds and five blocks over 31 minutes off the bench versus the Revelers.

Not only does the NBDL help facilitate players skills on the court they will offer players the opportunity to continue their education and take part in professional internships as part of the league's unique and comprehensive array of player development programs. The NBDL has named Dr. Janice Hilliard, director of player programs to develop, execute and oversee the league's landmark off-court development initiatives.

During the season, the NBDL's Continuing Education Program will enable players to continue their education through innovative online learning systems. While a majority of NBDL players have completed their undergraduate degrees, many have indicated an interest in continuing their education.

Players will also receive Career Counseling, which will provide resources for "life after basketball," including career assessment, resume writing and interviewing skills.

Community leaders will assist in identifying opportunities for players via internships and off-season job opportunities with NBDL marketing partners,

Planned
Parenthood
(make fit)
2x2.5

Council
Travel
1x4
(float)

(OCTFCU)
Athletics
3x10.5

Contractors
License
Exam
2x8